

Application No.: 10/613,455
Amendment Dated: January 26, 2006
Reply to Office Action of: November 8, 2005

MAT-7871US1

Remarks/Arguments:

The Official Action has identified language with insufficient antecedent basis in claims 9 and 17. Claims 9 and 17 have been appropriately amended.

Claims 9 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakamoto (U.S. Patent No. 4,772,513). It is respectfully submitted that these claims are now allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 9, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

... heating said diaphragm ... in a reactive chamber which has an electrode for said reactive chamber disposed outside of said reactive chamber ...

As set forth in the originally filed application at page 8, line 14, et seq.:

As described above, the exemplary embodiment provides electrodes 5 outside the reactive chamber 1 for plasma treatment. This enables the suppression of temperature rise in the reactive chamber 1 and prevents heat deformation of the loudspeaker diaphragm 4.

The feature of an electrode for a reactive chamber outside of the reactive chamber is neither disclosed nor suggested by Sakamoto. Accordingly, claim 9 is patentable over Sakamoto.

Claim 17 is patentable by virtue of its dependency on allowable claim 9.

Claims 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto (U.S. Patent No. 4,772,513). These claims, however, are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 9.

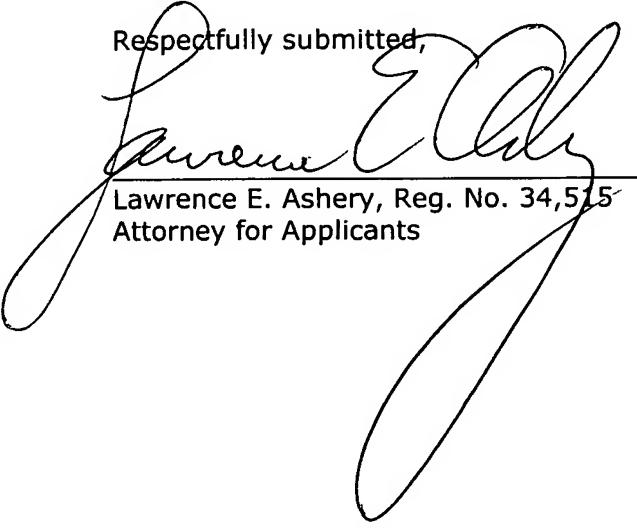
Claim 18 was previously indicated as including allowable subject matter.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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January 26, 2006

Deborah Spratt



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